

STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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**Annual Reports**

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Nuisance Inspector,

**For the Year 1910.**

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ROGER AND RENNICK, PRINTERS, WIGAN.



STANDISH,

January, 1911.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council,  
Standish-with-Langtree.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith place before you my Sixteenth Annual Report.

I think you will agree with me that the statistics relating to the public health during the past year have been of a most satisfactory character.

Thanking you for your support in all matters likely to increase the well-being of the inhabitants of the township.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. WILSON, M.D.

Fellow of the Royal Institute of  
Public Health;

Member of Incorporated Society  
of Medical Officers of Health.



## Statistical Summary for 1910.

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Population, Census 1901	...	...	...	6303
,, Estimated, July 1st, 1910	...	...	...	7140
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	3264 acres
Density of Population	...	...	...	2·12 per acre
Births—Males	...	...	...	117
Females	...	...	...	109
		Total...	..	<u>226</u>
Deaths—Males	...	...	...	46
Females	...	...	...	45
		Total...	...	<u>91</u>
Annual Birth-rate	...	...	...	31·65
Annual Death-rate	...	...	..	12·74
Excess of Births over Deaths...	...	...	...	135
Total Zymotic Deaths	...	...	...	2
Zymotic Death-rate	...	...	...	0·28
Deaths in Infants under 1 year of age		...	...	29
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births			...	128·31
Illegitimate Births	...	...	...	7
Illegitimate Deaths	...	...	...	5

*Births* are less by 3 than in the previous year; the rate being 31.65, and 32.49 in 1909. During the past decade the highest rate was shown in the year 1908, when it stood at 35.79. The male births were 8 more numerous than the female, this contrasting with the previous year, when the latter preponderated by 21. The births of illegitimate children show an increase of 3, and the corresponding deaths an increase of 5.

*Deaths* are less by 21, the sexes contributing almost equally, the males only being one more than the females, whilst the rate drops from 15.89 in 1909, to 12.74 last year.

The total deaths were 91 in number; of these 87 were in the township, whilst 4 were outside, two taking place at the Wigan Infirmary and two at the Workhouse.

Of the causes of death, respiratory diseases produced the largest number, viz., 28, being one less than last year; accidents accounting for 3 deaths, a reduction of 2.

Infantile deaths show a decrease of 2, being 29 in number, as compared with 31, which is equal to a rate per annum per 1,000 births of 128.31. This is the smallest number recorded for the district. Could we, however, deduct the prematurely born infants (6), all of which died in the first week of life, our rate would be much smaller, viz., 101.7. The diarrhoeal diseases, which often contribute so largely to the infantile deaths, were almost entirely absent, occasioning only a single death. Of other diseases Pneumonia and Convulsions gave the greatest numbers, viz., four each.

*Zymotic Disease and Deaths.*—The number of cases of infectious disease fell from 230 in 1909 to 68, the greatest decrease being in Measles, which contributed 127 in 1909, and 20 only last year. Scarlet Fever cases also show a decrease from 66 to 15. Enteric Fever was only notified in two cases, being a fall of one. Erysipelas dropped from 26 to 23. Only Diphtheria shows an increase, 8 cases being notified, an increase of one; whilst the deaths therefrom (2) were the same in each year, and gives the low death-rate from infectious diseases of 0.28. There were no deaths from any of the other zymotic diseases. The order of the L.G.B. in regard to the supply of Anti-Diphtheria Serum by the Council I welcome most heartily under its adoption I think fatalities from this disease will

almost disappear from your statistics. It chiefly rests with the parents and guardians to give medical men the opportunity of taking advantage of the order at the first onset of the disease.

No Smallpox occurred during the year, but the cottage for this is maintained as before.

*Mumps*.—A slight epidemic of this affection occurred during the spring, mostly affecting small children under the school age. A few adults were also infected. No school closure was necessary on this account, as in the previous year.

*Puerperal Fever*.—No notification nor any death from this affection.

*Ankylostomiasis*.—No cases reported.

*School Closure*.—There was no occasion requiring the adoption of this step.

*Drains, Sewers, and Sewage Disposal*.—Drains are in good order, and have frequent testing and flushing. Ventilation is good. Sewage is efficiently dealt with on the Council's Sewage Farm by irrigation and filtration, and reports have been satisfactory. It is hoped that the plans prepared for a scheme dealing with the sewage from the districts of Bradley, Chorley Lane, and Wigan will soon be approved by the L.G.B., and the work begun.

*Cleansing and Scavenging*.—This is now let by contract. The district is divided into convenient areas for the work, and has so far been well carried out. The only portion still carried out by the Council is the district of Boar's Head and Chorley Road.

*Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops*.—These are frequently inspected and in good condition, the cowsheds especially have been much improved.

*Lodging Houses*.—There are no common lodging houses. Houses where lodgers are taken are registered, but the number so taken has grown less year by year, and the number of such at the present time is very small.

*Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.*—The premises which come within the scope of this Act comprise:—

- 1 Factory.
- 2 Breweries.
- 4 Bakehouses.
- 3 Dressmakers.
- 8 Joiners and Sawyers.
- 6 Cloggers.
- 3 Blacksmiths.

Nineteen inspections were made, and one defect found—want of cleanliness. Attention was called to this, and the defect remedied.

There are no underground bakehouses, nor are there any outworkers.

The bakehouses are clean and well kept, the provisions of the Act being carried out.

*Food and Drugs Act.*—No action was taken. This duty is now in the hands of the County Authority.

*Notification of Births Act.*—Not adopted.

*Water Supply.*—This is a continuous supply, the interruption of which we formerly had to complain having been done away with by the provision of a storage reservoir on the western side of the village, at the highest portion of the township. The quality is excellent, and is supplied by the Liverpool Corporation from their watershed at Rivington. An analysis of the water made in October gave the following results:—

Total solids at 212° Fah. = 4 grains per gallon.

Total hardness = 3.5 degrees.

Free ammonia = .0015 parts per 100,000.

Albumenoid ammonia = .009 parts per 100,000.

Nitrates = a trace.

Chlorides = 1.2 parts per 100,000.

*Observations.*—The water has a faint yellowish tint, probably due to a trace of vegetable organic matter. From analysis there is no objection to its use for domestic purposes, beyond the softness



which always increases the danger of contamination from lead, when the water is stored in lead lined cisterns, or is long in contact with leaden pipes. There is no lead in this particular sample.

I may add, I have personally made frequent tests for lead in the water, but have never succeeded in finding any. This sample was taken at a time (October) when the water was the subject of comment o naccount of its dark colour. This was, as pointed out in the analyst's report, simply due to vegetable matter (probably peaty), and was brought about through the Corporation temporarily changing the source of supply. When the supply was changed back to our original source, the water soon resumed the clearness of colour to which we are accustomed.

*Disinfection.*—No apparatus is provided; fumigation by sulphur being still in vogue.

*Slaughter Houses* have been frequently inspected, and are clean and well kept, and all have public water supply.

*Canal Boats Act.*—The Council is not a Registration Authority. Though the canal bounds a portion of the township, there is no wharf.

*Offensive Trades.*—One such is carried on, but I have had no complaints of smell, and on visiting have found all processes carried on in a satisfactory manner.

*Meat Inspection.*—No special provision is made for carrying out this work, being in the hands of the Nuisance Inspector and myself. No tuberculous or other diseased carcasses were found. There is no public market where meat, fowl, fish, and other foods can be exposed for sale, but a small number of hawkers' carts visit the district almost daily, mostly selling fish and greengroceries.

*House Accommodation* is quite sufficient for all purposes. Migration to other parts in search of work and emigration to other countries has taken a considerable number of our young population, so that there is not now the same difficulty experienced as formerly to obtain housing accommodation. There is still a considerable amount of old property, some of it rather dilapidated, which have

to be gradually dealt with under the Housing and Town Planning Act, which came into operation at the latter part of the year, and which confers greater power on you in dealing with this class of property, though much good has been done with regard to ill-conditioned and bad property through the instrumentality of inspection and reports to owners.

*Mortuary.*—This has been used three times during the year.

Systematic inspections have been made by your Nuisance Inspector and myself.

Exemptions from vaccination are rapidly increasing in number, being 57 for the year.

*Deaths from Burns.*—I am glad again to mention that there have been none of these distressful accidents.

Council Offices,

Standish, Feb. 8th, 1911.

## Nuisance Inspector's Annual Report, 1910.

To J. H. WILSON, Medical Officer of Health, Urban District Council,  
Standish-with-Langtree.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to lay before you my report for the past year.

*Infectious Diseases.*—Two cases of Enteric Fever, 15 of Scarlet Fever, 8 of Diphtheria, and 20 of Measles were reported to me. All cases were visited, their origin traced as far as possible, and isolation watched. In all cases of Enteric Fever pails were used for removal of excreta. Disinfectants were supplied in all cases of fever, and the premises afterwards fumigated. These figures compare favourably with those relating to infectious disease for the previous year, in which three cases of Enteric Fever, 66 of Scarlet Fever, 7 of Diphtheria, and 127 of Measles were reported, Erysipelas 26; a total of 230 cases.

*Nuisances.*—Sixty-seven have been reported, and all abated. One prosecution was necessary to secure an abatement.

*Factories and Workshops.*—These have been visited and inspected, and were satisfactory, with one exception, when I had occasion to call attention to the insanitary conditions prevailing, and the matter was at once remedied.

*Dairies and Cowsheds* have also been inspected, and I am pleased to report on the progress which has been made at most of the farms. All were clean( attention having been given to lime-washing, etc.

*Slaughter Houses and Bakehouses.*—Visits have been made to these places, all of which were found in order and in a clean condition.

*Lodging Houses.*—These are kept in good order and clean, and as a rule less lodgers are taken than the number for which they were registered. There are fewer lodgers in the village than was formerly the case.

*Sewers.*—The sewers of the district are periodically flushed, and the manholes cleaned out, particularly in dry weather. Attention has been frequently given to the Lower Ground area. No blockage has occurred during the year.

*Ashpits and Scavenging.*—This was previously mostly done by the Council, only a portion being let by contract. During the latter part of the year, however, a change was made, and the greater portion being contracted for. So far the work has been carried out to my satisfaction.

*Sewage.*—That from the Standish portion of the district is still treated by irrigation and filtration through cinder beds, and gives satisfaction to the Ribble Joint Committee; no case of complaint being heard from them or their Inspectors.

*Dwellings Unfit for Habitation.*—Only one such was found. The attention of the owner was called to it, and it was promptly closed.

*New Dwellings.*—Thirteen cottages have been erected during the year.

# Summary of Nuisances dealt with during the Year 1910.

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Stopped Drains, Gullies, etc.	...	...	...	10
Dirty Yards and Passages	...	...	...	8
Plaster off Walls, etc.	...	..	...	1
Ashpit Doors off	...	...	...	1
Houses in Generally Bad Condition	..	...	...	4
Defective Roofs and Spouts	...	...	...	7
Foul Privies	...	...	...	7
Foul Ashpits	...	...	...	6
Defective Water Pipes	...	...	...	2
Defective Slopstones	...	...	...	3
Keeping Fowls	...	...	...	1
Cesspools Required Cleaning	...	..	...	1
Private Road in Dirty Condition	...	...	...	1
Ventilation of Sewer Defective	...	...	...	1
Accumulation of Garbage at Slaughter House	...	...	...	1
Defective Water Closet	...	...	...	1
Unwholesome and Insufficient Water for Shippon	...	...	...	1
Chimney Dilapidated and Dangerous	...	...	...	1

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1910,  
for the Urban District of Standish-with-Langtree.**

on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in  
connection with

**Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.**

**1.—INSPECTION.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of  
Nuisances.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	5	1
Workshops .. ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	14	None
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>

**2.—DEFECTS FOUND.—One.**

**3.—HOME WORK.—None.**

**4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.**

	Number.
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	
Factories .. ...	1
Breweries ... ..	2
Bakehouses ... ..	4
Dressmakers ... ..	3
Joiners and Sawyers ... ..	8
Cloggers ... ..	6
Blacksmiths .. ...	3
<b>Total number of workshops on Register ...</b>	<b>27</b>

**5.—OTHER MATTERS.—None.**

TABLE I.  
STATISTICAL TABLE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.				Death-rate over 1 and over 5 years.	Zymotic Death-rate.
	Estimated Population to middle of each year.	No.	Rate per 1,000 Population.	All Ages No.	Rate per 1,000 Population.	Under 1 year.	Infantile death-rate per 1,000 Births.	
1900...	6,245	208	33·30	121	19·86	38	182·70	3·58
1901...	6,325	214	33·67	108	17·07	42	196·02	3·20
1902...	6,413	264	41·16	112	17·46	36	186·74	3·16
1903...	6,502	222	34·14	91	13·99	32	141·14	2·02
1904...	6,546	223	34·06	131	20·00	39	174·08	1·99
1905...	6,680	227	33·98	108	16·16	38	167·40	1·98
1906...	6,772	225	33·22	95	14·02	38	168·80	1·04
1907...	6,864	207	31·15	134	19·50	30	144·90	1·88
1908...	6,956	249	35·79	107	15·38	35	140·56	4·38
1909...	7,048	229	32·49	112	15·89	31	135·	2·15
Averages for years, 1900/1909	6,635	226	34·29	111	16·93	35	163·34	2·53
1910...	7,140	226	31·65	91	12·74	29	128·31	0·28

Hospitals outside district receiving Sick and Infirm Persons from district  
 Maintained by Council: Cottage for Smallpox only.

) Wigan Infirmary.  
 ) Wigan Workhouse.



TABLE IV.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Und. 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 months	2-3 months	3-4 months	4-5 months	5-6 months	6-7 months	7-8 months	8-9 months	9-10 months	10-11 months	11-12 months	Total deaths under one Year.
All Causes :—		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Certified ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uncertified ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Infectious Diseases :																		
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases :		..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Diarrhoea, all forms...		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ..		..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Premature Birth ..		6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other Causes :																		
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3
Convulsions ..		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bronchitis ..		..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pneumonia ..		..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4
Other causes ..		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	5
		8			2	10	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	29

District (or sub-division) of Standish-with-Langtree.

Births in the year, legitimate, 219 ; illegitimate, 7.

Population, estimated to middle of 1910—7,110.

Deaths from all causes at all ages, 91.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 24 ; illegitimate infants, 5.



TABLE III.  
CAUSES OF, AND AGES, AT DEATH.

	At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5 Years.	5 and under 15 Years.	15 and under 25 Years.	25 and under 65 Years.	Over 65 Years.
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	2	1	...	1	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	4	3	1	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)...	2	—	...	1	...	1	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	4	—	...	1	...	1	...
Bronchitis	11	4	1	...	...	2	4
Pneumonia	16	4	5	...	...	6	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	—	...	...	...	1	...
Premature Birth	6	6	—	...	...	—	...
Heart Disease	5	—	...	...	...	5	...
Accidents ...	3	—	1	...	...	2	...
All other Causes	36	10	3	2	1	12	8
All Causes	91	29	13	5	1	30	13

TABLE II.

## ZYMOTIC DISEASES NOTIFIED.

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Deaths.
Diphtheria and													
Membranous Croup	3	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	8    2
Erysipelas	3	1	2	...	4	2	...	2	3	...	3	3	23    ...
Scarlet Fever	1	4	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	1	5	..	15    ...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2    ...
Measles	...	...	..	...	...	1	4	...	1	3	11	...	20    ...
Total	...	7	6	3	1	6	4	7	2	5	4	19	4    68    2

## Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.                      Zymotic Death-rate.

Rate per 1000  
of Population.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.....2                      ...

Total.....2

0.28

# Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1910.

## Urban District of Standish-with-Langtree.

Area in Statute Acres ... 3,264	Population (Census 1901) ... 6,303	Population (Estimated), 1910... 7,140
Births Registered—Males, 117 ; Females, 109 ; Total, 226	Deaths Registered—Males, 46 ; Females, 45 ; Total, 91	
Number of Illegitimate Births Registered ... 7	Deaths of Illegitimates under one year of age ... 5	
Birth Rate ... 31.65	Death Rate, 12.74	Rate of Infant Deaths, under 1 year, to 1,000 Births 128.31
Death Rate from the seven principal epidemic Diseases per 1,000 of population ... 0.28		
Diseases specially prevalent—Measles, Scarlet Fever, and Erysipelas		
Any Schools closed? No	Period?	Throughout the year
What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?	) For Smallpox only ) For other Infectious Diseases : None	
Is it Joint or otherwise?	Otherwise	

## SUMMARY.—Continued.

No. of Beds available for your district ?	For Smallpox .. 6	For other Infectious Diseases ?	None
No. of cases removed to Hospital from your District—Nil			
Deaths in Hospital of Patients from your district ?	From what causes ?	Pneumonia ... 1	Senile Decay ... 1
		Intestinal Obstruction ... 1	Injury ... 1
How is Disinfection carried out ?	Houses Fumigated by Sulphur      No of Houses disinfected ... 45 Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise) ?      None Where is apparatus situated ?      None kept		
Number of cases of Infectious Diseases reported under the Notification Act ...	48		
Are any diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoe, Chicken Pox, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, &c.) ?	If so, what are they ?	Measles	
Bacteriological Examinations.	Number and nature of specimens examined ?	None	
Has any arrangement been made for the “voluntary” notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis ?	No		
Number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis reported under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908 ?	None		
Has any arrangement been made under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910 ?	Yes		

# SUMMARY.—Continued.

Action taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909"	<p>Number of Dwelling-houses inspected, 12; considered unfit for human habitation, 1;</p> <p>" Representations to Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders ?</p> <p>" Not necessary Closed voluntary</p> <p>" Closing Orders made ? None</p> <p>" Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders, 2</p> <p>General character of defects found to exist? Pampness, defective spouting, bad roofs and floors</p>
From where is the Water Supply obtained ? What is its condition ? Is it subject to your inspection ?	<p>Anglesark Reservoir of Liverpool Corporation</p> <p>Very good</p> <p>Yes</p>
Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactory ? How performed (by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Originally Council in Standish district, by contract in Lower Ground district, but now all contract except Boar's Head and Chorley Lane.</p>
How is the Refuse disposed of ? Has a Destructor been provided ?	<p>On Council's Sewage Farm and Agricultural Land</p> <p>No</p>
Sewage Disposal Works Method of treatment ? What is the character of the Drainage System ? Drain Testing, Flushing, &c. ?	<p>By water carriage by precipitation and irrigation and filtration</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Systematically done</p>
Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?	<p>None</p>

SUMMARY.—*Continued.*

Canal Boats : Number inspected ?	None Number of Infringements of Acts ? None    The Council is not a Registration Authority under the Canal Boats Act
What is the condition of the Bakehouses ? " Slaughter Houses ? " Lodging Houses ?	Good Very clean    Has a Public Abattoir been provided ? No Very well kept    Are they Registered ? Yes
What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools ?	Good
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops— Are they periodically inspected ? Have Regulations been made under the order of the L.G.B. ? Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ? Number of Cowkeepers ? Number of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) ?	Yes    What is their condition ? Good Yes    Are they enforced ? Yes 600 Number on Register, 29 Number on Register, 1
Food unfit for Human Consumption : Amount seized ? Number of Legal Proceedings and result ?	None None
Department of Inspector of Nuisances	Number of Notices served, 67    Nuisances remedied, 67 Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result—One order for abatement

# SUMMARY.—Continued.

Closet accommodation of the district	Number of Privy Middens,—not ascertained ; Pail Closets, 21 ; Fresh Water Closets, None ; Waste Water Closets, One ; Number of Privy Middens converted during 1910—To W.C.'s None ; to Pails, &c, None ; Number of Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s, None
Smoke	Number of Observations, None ; Number of Legal Proceedings taken and result, None ; What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour—None fixed
Has the Authority adopted —	“The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ” ? Yes ; “ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 ” ? Yes ; “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ” ? Yes ; “The Notification of Births Act, 1907 ” ? No
Has a Health Visitor been appointed ?	No
Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1910	Improvements in old property Improved attention to street cleaning and flagging Improvement in back yards
Chief Sanitary requirements of district	Attention to old property

February, 1911. Signed, J. H. WILSON, Medical Officer of Health.

